

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ASUNCI 03781 311457Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 DODE-00 PM-05 INR-10 SS-15

SP-02 MCE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /053 W

-----045006 010949Z /13

R 311400Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3892

INFO USCINSCO QUARRY HTS

CONFIDENTIAL ASUNCION 3781

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PA

SUBJECT: MILITARY ASSISTANCE AND PARAGUAY

REF: STATE 203286

1. MISSION APPRECIATES OPPORTUNITY TO WEIGH IN ON MATTERS COVERED  
REFTEL AND HOPES DEPT. WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE TIMELY INFORMATION  
ON THESE AND OTHER ISSUES.

2. FMS CASH PURCHASES AND MUNITIONS CONTROL ITEMS. EMBASSY HAD  
PREVIOUSLY RECOMMENDED DENIAL OF AMMO REQUEST FOR PARAGUAYAN  
POLICE AND SUPPORTS DEPARTMENT'S INTENTION TO DENY IT. REGARDING  
FMS CASH PURCHASES, EMBASSY WOULD RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF REQUESTS  
FOR SPARE PARTS, P AND A DATA AND EXCESS EQUIPMENT IN GENERAL.  
WE SUPPORT A CASE-BY-CASE LOOK AT MUNITIONS CONTROL ITEMS WHICH  
COULD BE CONSIDERED IN THE "LETHAL CATEGORY" OR HAVE A POTENTIAL  
FOR USE AGAINST THE CIVILIAN POPULATION AND WILL PROVIDE OUR  
RECOMMENDATIONS AS CASES ARE FORWARDED.

3. PARAGUAYAN ATTENDANCE AT NAVAL COMMAND COURSE. EMBASSY  
RECOMMENDS THAT DEPT. MAKE AVAILABLE FY 79 IMET FUNDS TO COVER  
THE COST OF THE NAVAL COMMAND COURSE SO THAT AN INVITATION TO  
ATTEND CAN BE PREFERRED TO THE GOP IF WE WISH TO MAKE A TIMELY  
U.S. GESTURE TO THE PARAGUAYANS. FAILURE TO NOTIFY EMBASSY OF THE  
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DEPT'S DECISION TO CANCEL PARAGUAYAN ATTENDANCE FOR HUMAN  
RIGHTS REASONS HAS MEANT THAT THE PARAGUAYANS WERE NEVER INFORMED  
OF THE DECISION UNTIL AFTER THE ISSUES, WHICH WE HAD  
HOPED TO INFLUENCE BY THE ACTION, HAD BEEN RESOLVED OR HAD BEEN  
ALTERED CONSIDERABLY. NOW THAT THE PARAGUAYAN MILITARY ARE AWARE  
OF THE CONNECTION, DEPT'S SUGGESTION THAT THE NAVAL COMMAND COURSE  
MAY BE AVAILABLE IN JANUARY PROVIDES US AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A

DIRECT, POSITIVE GESTURE TO THE GOP IF HUMAN RIGHTS CONDITIONS  
CONTINUE TO IMPROVE.

4. FY 76 FMS. WE HAVE URGED THE GOP TO PAY THE UNPAID BALANCE OF  
THE INSTALLMENT DUE JULY 31. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT THE INTEREST  
DUE HAS BEEN PAID IN FULL BUT THAT ONLY A \$45,000 SEMI-ANNUAL  
PAYMENT AGAINST THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT WAS MADE AS THE DEFENSE  
MINISTRY HAS DIFFCULTY MAKING PAYMENTS BASED ON \$500,00 WHEN THE  
ACTUAL EXPENDED AMOUNT IS ABOUT \$400,000. THIS IS BECAUSE OF  
INTERNAL ACCOUNTING PROBLEMS. IF WE HAD RECEIVED INFORMATION  
EARLIER, ODC COULD HAVE ANSWERED THE GOP'S QUESTIONS AND MIGHT  
HAVE BEEN ABLE TO COUNTER THE PARAGUAYANS' IMPRESSION THAT THE  
CREDIT HAD BEEN FROZEN. EARLIER WE HAD TOLD THE PARAGUAYANS  
THAT THE USG WOULD NOT SIGN AN EXTENSION TO THE FY 76 FMS  
CREDIT UNLESS CERTAIN HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS WERE OVERCOME  
BEFORE THAT DATE. THE PARAGUAYAN ARMY OFFICER IN THE WASHINGTON  
EMBASSY, WAS CORRECT, THEREFORE, WHEN HE SAID THE GOP WOULDN'T  
BE ALLOWED TO USE THE REMAINING CREDIT UNDER CONDITIONS WHICH  
EXISTED AT THAT TIME. WE WOULD RECOMMEND, THEREFORE, THAT DSAA  
AGREE TO A REVISED REPAYMENT SCHEDULE BASED ON THE PRINCIPAL  
EXPENDED, IF AT ALL POSSIBLE, BECAUSE THE USG TOOK THE  
INITIATIVE TO DENY THE REMAINING CREDITS.

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY ASSISTANCE, POLICIES  
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**Decapton Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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